

CLAIMS

1. A telecommunication device for forwarding messages intended for a forwarded-to subscriber, comprising:

a control device;

5 a database for storing subscriber-related information, the subscriber-related information identifying a plurality of forwarded-to subscribers and terminals associated with the plurality of forwarded-to subscribers and message formats compatible with the terminals;

10 at least one telecommunication network interface via which messages can be exchanged with telecommunication networks; and

at least one conversion module for converting temporarily stored messages into at least one of the message formats identified by the subscriber-related information and stored in the database;

15 wherein the control device selects, upon reception of a message intended for a forwarded-to subscriber, at least one of the terminals via which the forwarded-to subscriber can be reached, and at least one message format compatible with the at least one terminal, via the subscriber-related information, supplies the message to the at least one conversion module depending upon the message format selected and receives the messages converted by the at least one conversion module and forwards them to
20 the telecommunication network interface respectively corresponding to the relevant message format for transmission to the at least one selected terminal.

2. A telecommunication device for forwarding messages intended for a forwarded-to subscriber as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:

25 a storage device for temporarily storing at least one of messages received via the at least one telecommunication interface and converted messages.

3. A telecommunication device for forwarding messages intended for a forwarded-to subscriber as claimed in claim 1, wherein the subscriber-related
30 information of the database contains an information element which identifies the terminals to be selected.

4. A telecommunication device for forwarding messages intended for a forwarded-to subscriber as claimed in claim 3, wherein the control device changes the information element based on messages sent off by the relevant forwarded-to subscriber, which contain information relating to an availability of the forwarded-to subscriber.

5. A method for forwarding a message intended for a forwarded-to subscriber, effected via a telecommunication device, the method comprising the steps of:

10 receiving the message;
selecting at least one terminal via which the forwarded-to subscriber can be reached, and selecting at least one message format, which is compatible with the at least one terminal, via subscriber-related information;
converting a temporarily stored message into the at least one message format
15 selected; and
transmitting the converted message to the at least one terminal selected via a telecommunication network respectively corresponding to the relevant message format.

20 6. A method for forwarding a message intended for a forwarded-to subscriber as claimed in claim 5, the method further comprising the step of:

storing, temporarily, the at least one message on a storage device in at least one of the step of receiving and the step of converting.

25 7. A method for forwarding a message intended for a forwarded-to subscriber as claimed in claim 5, wherein during the step of selecting, the selection is made based on an information element which is contained in the subscriber-related information and which identifies the terminals to be selected.